206379US2PCT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

•

TAKASHI MASATO

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/830,684

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FILED: APRIL 30, 2001

:

FOR: STAGE UNIT, EXPOSURE

APPARATUS, DEVICE

MANUFACTURING METHOD,

AND DEVICE

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND NOTIFICATION OF INVENTOR'S PROPER NAME

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 35 as follows:

35. (Amended) A stage unit according to Claim 28, further comprising

a stage base that movably supports the sample stage and is supported independently of

the first transmitting member.